

PCT Appl. No. : PCT/EP00/01727
Filed : Herewith

A1 Sub 7

16. (New) The device of Claim 15, further comprising a lever mechanism positioned in the sliding ring and attached to the housing.

17. (New) The device of Claim 15, wherein the sliding ring comprises a stepped carrier profile on an inner surface of the sliding ring.

18. (New) The device of Claim 17, wherein the carrier profile defines a stop.

19. (New) The device of Claim 15, wherein the lever mechanism comprises two levers of approximately equal length hingedly connected and a roller positioned approximately at the connection of the two levers.

20. (New) The device of Claim 15, wherein the housing has a recessed surface and wherein the sliding ring is guided on the recessed surface of the housing.

21. (New) The device of Claim 15, further comprising at least one of an outlet valve, an inlet valve, and a relief valve wherein the at least one of an outlet valve, an inlet valve, and a relief valve is actuated by the slide and arranged centrally in the housing.

22. (New) The device of Claim 15, further comprising a locking ring attaching the sliding ring.

23. (New) The device of Claim 22, wherein the locking ring is threaded.

24. (New) The device of Claim 15, further comprising a locking element wherein the sliding ring can be checked by the locking element in at least one end position relative to the housing.

25. (New) The device of Claim 24, wherein the locking element comprises a ball.

26. (New) The device of Claim 15, further comprising bolts and a centering insert, the centering insert being arranged in the housing wherein the lever mechanism is configured as a toggle joint attached at a first end to the centering insert with the bolts and on the opposite end to the slide.

27. (New) The device of Claim 26, further comprising a second lever mechanism wherein the lever mechanisms are arranged mirroring the main axis of the centering insert.

28. (New) The device of Claim 26, further comprising a carrier profile arranged on a peripheral surface of the centering insert.

PCT Appl. No. : PCT/EP00/01727
Filed : Herewith

ASJ 29. (New) The device of Claim 15, further comprising a hand grip wherein the sliding ring is attached to the hand grip or the slide.

30. (New) The device of Claim 17, wherein the carrier profile exhibits a flatter elevation at a first end so as to induce an increased transmission of force.

31. (New) A fluid line coupler for fixed attachment to a fluid line and removable attachment to a connection nipple, the coupler comprising:

a tubular housing;

a slide member coaxially arranged in the housing such that the slide member is displaceable along the common axis between a first sealed position and a second removable position;

at least one collet member having an attachment surface matching the contour of the connection nipple wherein the first sealed position places the at least one collet member in contact with the connection nipple and the second removable position distances the at least one collet member from the connection nipple and wherein the at least one collet member is biased to the second removable position;

a toggle mechanism attached to the housing and the slide member;

a slide actuator having a cam surface, the slide actuator being coaxially mounted on the housing so as to be displaceable along the common axis such that displacement of the slide actuator along the common axis brings or removes the cam surface into contact with the toggle mechanism so as to induce the slide member to move between the first sealed and the second removable positions; and

at least one valve positioned within the housing such that the valve directs fluid contained within the coupler during movement between the first sealed and second removable positions so as to inhibit escape of the fluid from the coupler.

32. (New) A fluid line coupler for fixed attachment to a fluid line and removable attachment to a connection nipple, the coupler comprising:

a tubular housing;

a slide member coaxially arranged in the housing such that the slide member is displaceable along the common axis between a first sealed position and a second removable position;

PCT Appl. No. : PCT/EP00/01727

Filed : Herewith

Subj ~~at least one collet member having an attachment surface matching the contour of the connection nipple wherein the first sealed position places the at least one collet member in contact with the connection nipple and the second removable position distances the at least one collet member from the connection nipple and wherein the at least one collet member is biased to the second removable position;~~

~~a toggle mechanism attached to the housing and the slide member; and a slide actuator having a cam surface, the slide actuator being coaxially mounted on the housing so as to be displaceable along the common axis such that displacement of the slide actuator along the common axis brings or removes the cam surface into contact with the toggle mechanism so as to induce the slide member to move between the first sealed and the second removable positions.~~

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: 8/20/01

By: _____


Michael H. Trenholm
Registration No. 37, 743
Attorney of Record
620 Newport Center Drive
Sixteenth Floor
Newport Beach, CA 92660

AMEND

R:\DOCS\JWA\JWA-1592.DOC
082401